

Expert Exchange Workshop
Promotion of Sustainable Wood Energy Value Chains
in Development Cooperation

Messages from World Forestry Congress 2015 Highlights on Wood Energy

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World Forestry Congress (WFC)

- **Largest and most significant gathering of the world's forestry sector**
 - Worldwide forum for knowledge sharing and international dialogues with broad representation (countries, forestry groups; govt., NGO, academia, private sector, ...)
 - Drawing public attention to forest related issues, aims to help shape international action in the global forestry sector
- **Held every six years**
 - First time in Rome (1926); Latest one in Durban, South Africa (Sept. 2015); Each time highlighting different themes
- **Organized by the government of the host country**
 - Under auspices of FAO since the 3rd WFC in Helsinki (1949)
 - Host countries so far: Italy, Hungary, Finland, India, USA, Spain, Argentina, Indonesia, Mexico, France, Turkey, South Africa



WFC2015
XIV World Forestry Congress

Forests and People: Investing in a Sustainable Future

7-11 SEPTEMBER 2015 Durban | South Africa

- **Representation** - About 4000 participants from 138 countries
- **Themes** - Forests and people: investing in a sustainable future
(Developing a vision for forests and forestry towards 2050)

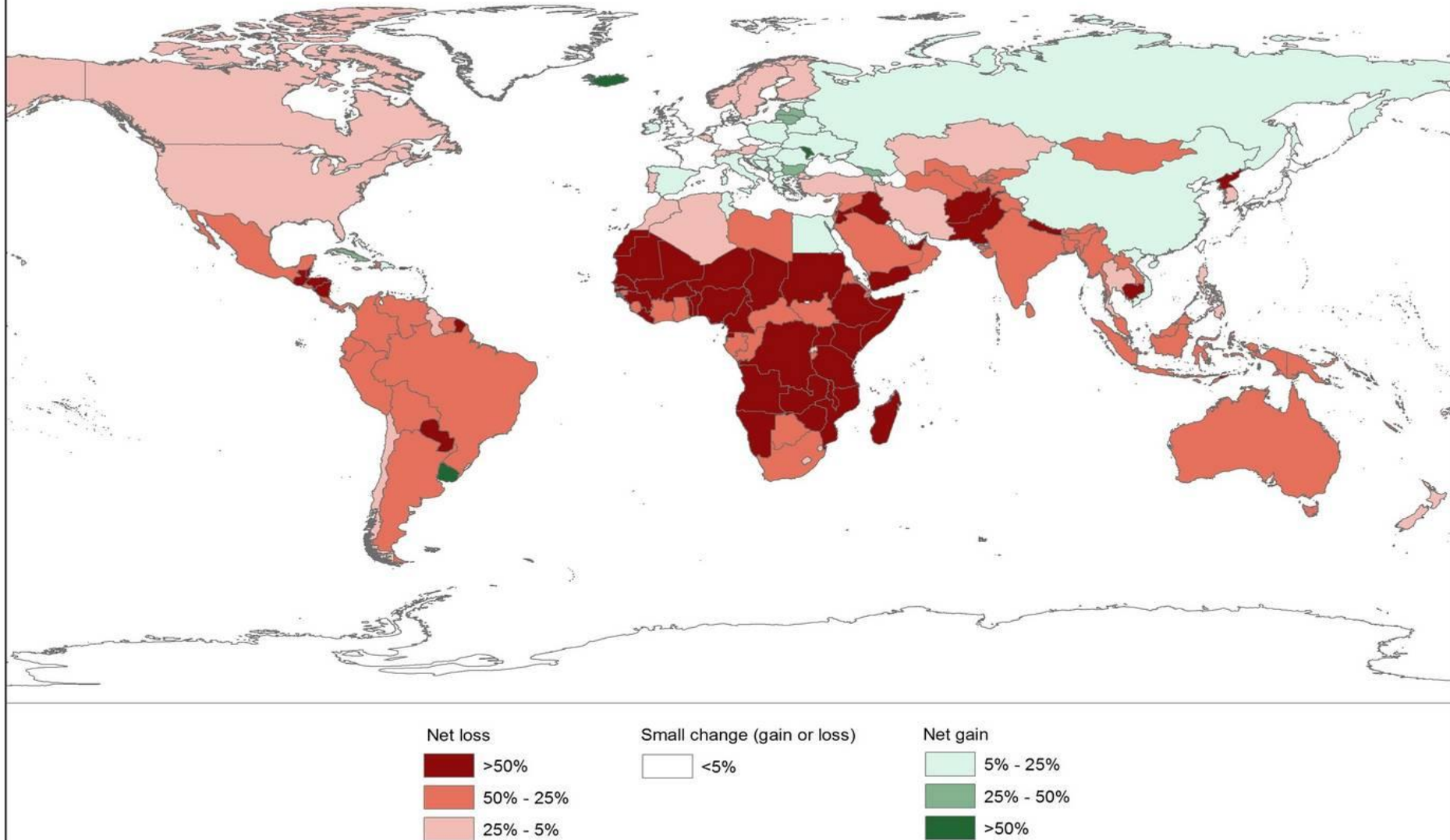
Six sub-themes: 1) forests for socio-economic development and food security; 2) building resilience with forests; 3) integrating forests and other land uses; 4) encouraging product innovation and sustainable trade; 5) monitoring forests for better decision-making, and 6) improving governance by building capacity

- **Side events**

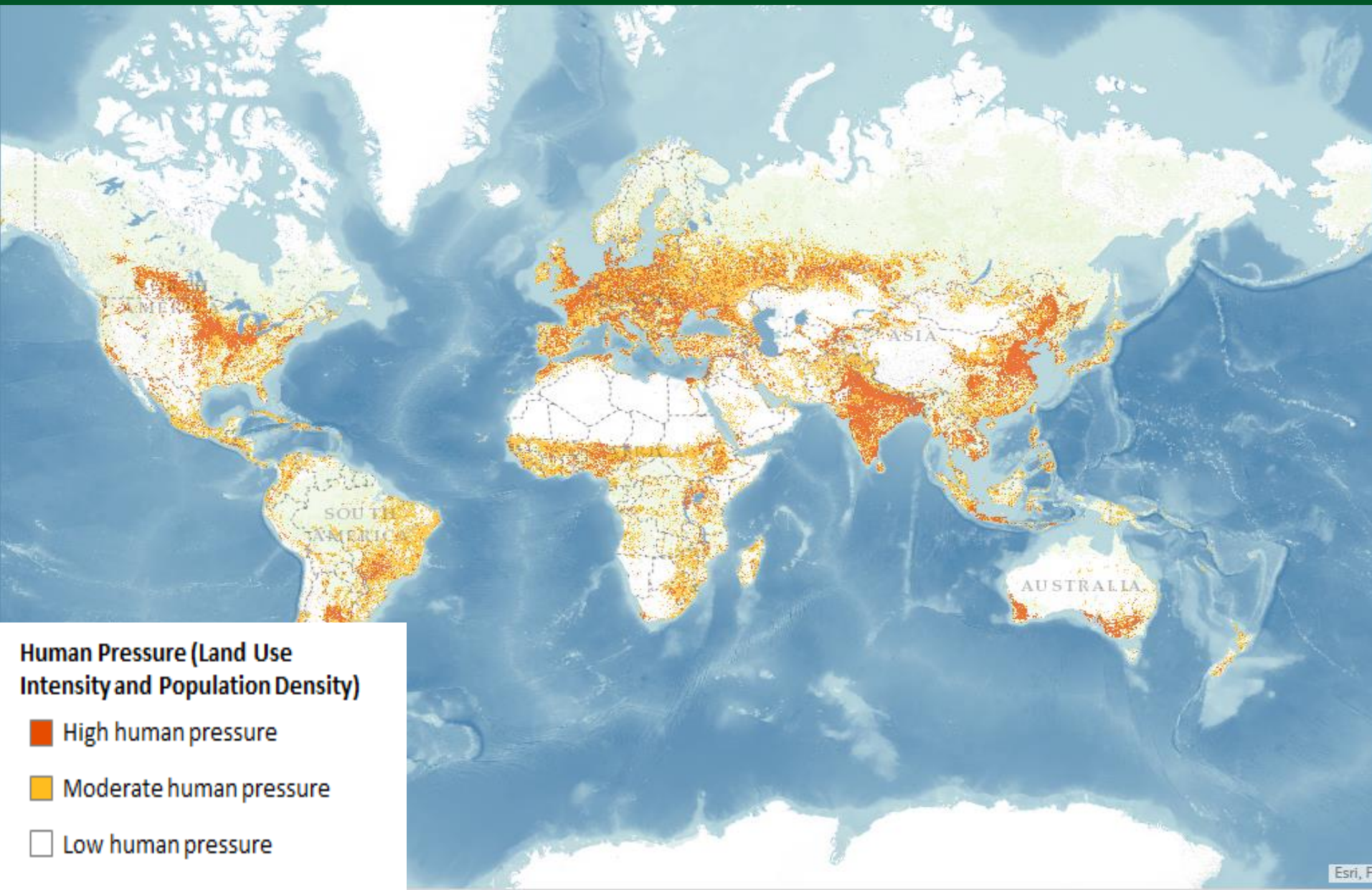
178 side events, including two side events on wood energy and the release of FAO's flagship publication - Global Forest Resources Assessment 2015

Changes in Forest Area: 1990-2015

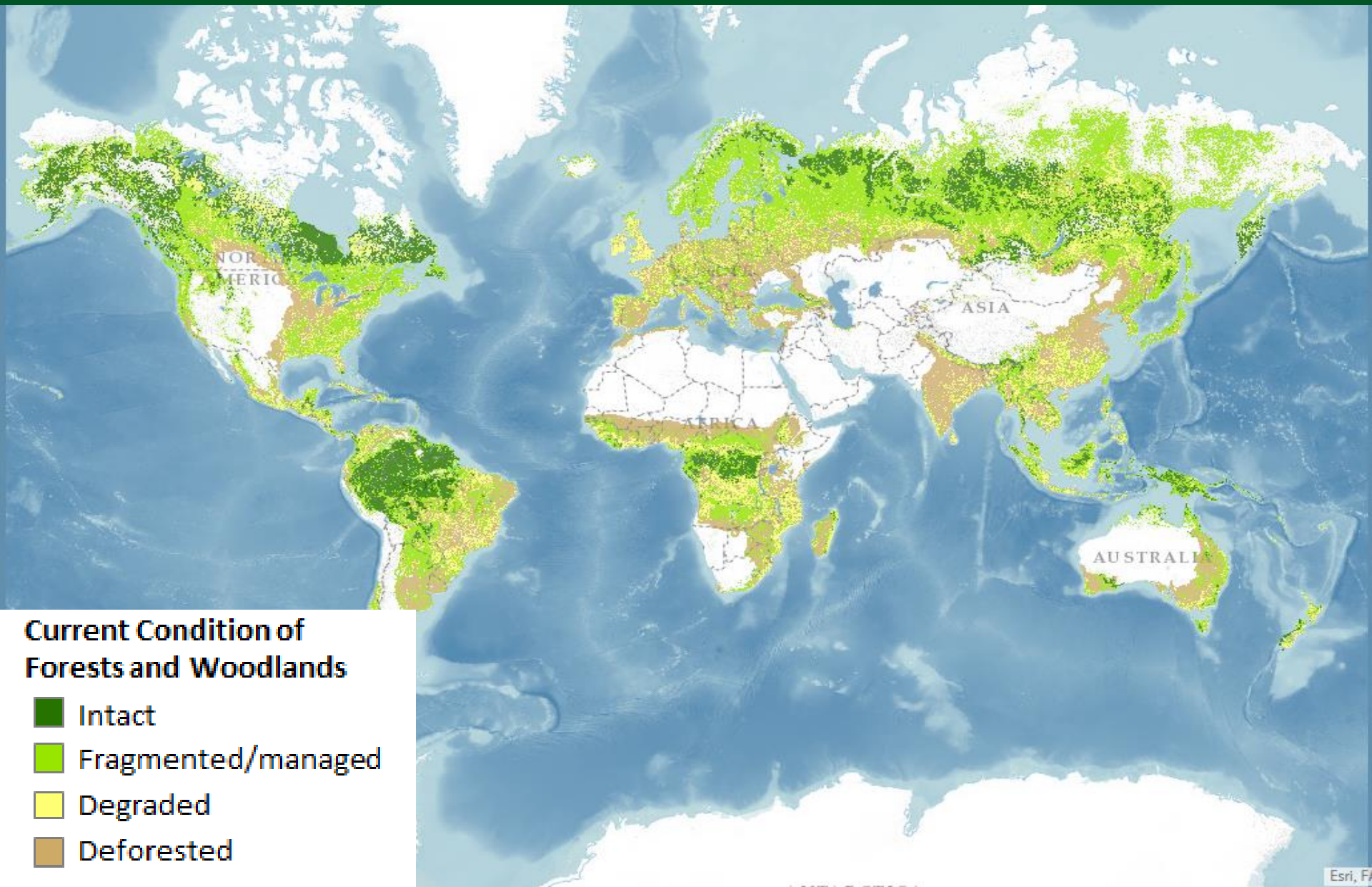
Per capita forest area (ha per person) change by country (1990-2015)



Human Pressure on Forests and Woodlands



Current Condition of Forests and Woodlands



Durban Declaration - The Vision

- **Forests are fundamental for food security and improved livelihoods**
 - Providing food, wood energy, shelter, fodder and fiber; generating income and employment
 - Harboring biodiversity, stabilizing soils and climate, and regulating water flows
- **Integrated approaches to land use and improvement in policies and practices**
 - Address drivers of deforestation and conflicts over land use
 - Capitalize on the full range of benefits of integrating forests with agriculture
 - Maintain multiple forest services in the landscape context
- **Forests are an essential solution to climate change adaptation and mitigation**
 - Sustainably managed forests increase the resilience of ecosystems and societies and optimize the role of forests in absorbing and storing carbon

Policy Dialogue - Action Points

- Better integration between forestry and related land-use policies
- More collaboration in scaling up from pilot projects to landscapes
- Importance of forests for climate-change mitigation and adaptation
- Contribution of forests to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
- Forests for the livelihoods of indigenous and local communities and for biodiversity and environmental services
- Promotion of effective stakeholder and civil-society engagement, gender equality, good governance and secured land tenure
- Urgent need for more effective investments with adequate financial resources
- Forests as part of a transformative change towards a bio-based economy
- National forest programs to serve as platforms to articulate how forests can best contribute to a bio-based economy, meeting climate-change commitments, and implementing the SDGs

Special Event on Wood Energy

More than heat! - Wood energy for the future

- Showcase the potential wood energy in sustainable development and greener economies
- Highlight ways to make wood energy use more sustainable and efficient
- Enhance the contribution of woodfuel to livelihood improvement, gender equity, food security, health, energy access and sustainable forest management



WFC 2015 Special Event on Wood Energy - Speakers



James Astill
The Economist



Eva Muller
FAO



Paula Caballero
World Bank



Dolf Gielen
IRENA



Ralava Bevoarimisa
Madagascar



Wanjira Mathai
Kenya



Tony Simons
ICRAF



Eduardo Rojas Briaes
PUV, Spain



David Gibson
IFC



Paulo César Pavan
Fibria, Brazil



Special Event on Wood Energy - Key Messages

1. Wood energy is not “the poor man’s fuel”. It is a renewable, climate-friendly and available form of energy when produced sustainably and used efficiently.
2. A comprehensive approach addressing the full value chain for fuelwood and charcoal as well as governance issues is needed to improve sustainability and efficiency, especially for charcoal production and trade.
3. Special attention needs to be paid on reducing the health risks, particularly to women and children, who bear most of the burden of woodfuel collection and use.
4. Wood is a high-value product, and woodfuel may not always be the highest value-added end use. In some circumstances, however, it may be the best option for energy production.

Links to Relevant Documents

- [The Durban Declaration](#)
- [Message on Climate Change](#)
- [Message to the UN General Assembly Summit for the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#)
- [Plenary reports from the high-level dialogue, plenary sessions, sub-themes and special events](#)
- [WFC Official Website](#)
- [IISD Summary Reports](#)

Thanks for Your Attention

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